



1712

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: RAYBORN, Jerry  
Serial No.: 10/090,201  
Filed: March 5, 2002  
Title: WATER-BASED DRILLING FLUID ADDITIVE CONTAINING  
TALC AND CARRIER  
Examiner: Tucker, Philip Art Unit: 1712  
Docket: P-0023-US

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO ADVISORY ACTION**

In response to the Advisory Action dated April 1, 2004, the text and status of the pending claims are as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (previously amended) A drilling fluid additive mixture manufactured by a method comprising of:

admixing talc with at least one carrier to create a suspended mixture, said suspended mixture allowing the surface of said talc to be pre-wet with said carrier, said carrier being selected from a group consisting of oils, glycols, esters, olefins and mixtures thereof, and admixing copolymer beads to said mixture prior to adding said mixture to a drilling fluid.

2. (cancelled)

3. (original) The drilling fluid additive mixture of Claim 2 wherein said beads have a specific gravity at from about 1.0 to about 1.5 and a size from about 40 microns to about 1500 microns.

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